Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 STRE-00 ISO-00 IO-13 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /140 W

P 031724Z NOV 77 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2673 INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 09729

USMTN

ACTION STR STR PASS CODEL

EO 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: US/MEXICAN AGREEMENT SIGNING: GENEVA HANDLING

REF: (A) STATE 258620, (B) MEXICO CITY 18218

- 1. WE RECOMMEND FOLLOWING ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO GENEVA HANDLING OF PROSPECTIVE SIGNING OF US-MEXICAN AGREEMENT:
- (A) SEEK GARRIDO (OR, IF NECESSARY, MEXICAN MINISTER OF COMMERCE) APPROVAL AND TRANSMISSION OF NECESSARY INSTRUCTION TO MEXICAN DEL IN GENEVA TO JOIN US IN A JOINT REQUEST TO GATT DG TO CIRCULATE TEXT OF THE JOINT STATEMENT AS ISSUED IN WASHINGTON AS WELL AS THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT ITSELF.

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- (B) IF MEXICANS ARE RELUCTANT TO AGREE TO THIS COURSE OF ACTION (SEE BELOW FOR EVIDENCE OF GARRIDO'S HESITATION), RECOMMEND WE BE AUTHORIZED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:
- (1) CONFIRM PROMPTLY AFTER SIGNATURE IN WASHINGTON, IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES FROM DELEGATIONS AND/OR PRESS, THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS IN FACT SIGNED, AND RELEASE

JOINT STATEMENT.

- (2) NOTIFY GATT SECRETARIAT (AS REQUIRED BY MTN/TP/7 PARA 7) THE CONTENTS OF SCHEDULE I OF AGREEMENT, NOTING THAT US IMPLEMENTATION IS BASED ON A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION AND IS PART OF A LARGER BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT
- (3) CARRY TEXT OF STR PRESS RELEASE AND JOINT STATEMENT IN MISSION DAILY BULLETIN DAY FOLLOWING WASHINGTON SIGNATURE, AND
- (4) AUTHORIZE USEC BRUSSELS TO BRING TEXT OF STR PRESS RELEASE AND JOINT STATEMENT TO ATTENTION OF "EUROPEAN REPORT" AND "AGENCE EUROPE".
- 2. PROSPECTIVE SIGNATURE OF US-MEXICAN AGREEMENT IS NOT ONLY WELCOME IN ITSELF AS MARKING SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A DIFFICULT BILATERAL NEGOTIATION, BUT OFFERS POSSIBLE VEHICLE TO MOVE AHEAD THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THAT HAVE BEEN STALLED FOR MANY MONTHS OVER THE ISSUE "CONTRIBUTIONS" FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. DISCUSSION WITH GARRIDO HERE LAST WEEK, HOWEVER, REVEALED HESITATION ON HIS PART IN DRAMATIZING IN GENEVA THE WASHINGTON SIGNING CEREMONY. GARRIDO HAS INFORMED A NUMBER OF LDC DELEGATIONS (AND SECRETARIAT) OF MEXICAN INTENTION TO SIGN WITH US. HE TOLD US ARGENTINA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND INDIA REACTED NEGATIVELY, INDIAN REP GOING SO FAR AS TO REQUEST DELAY OF SIGNATURE UNTIL AFTER JANUARY 15 WHEN ALL DC OFFERS FOR THE MTN ARE DUE TO BE ON THE TABLE. GARRIDO SAYS HE TOLD INDIANS MEXICO UNWILLING TO DELAY SIGNATURE OF FIRST TRADE AGREEMENT MEXICO HAS BEEN ABLE TO NEGOTIATE WITH US FOR 30 YEARS AND, MOREOVER, POINTED OUT ITS COVERAGE GOES BEYOND TROPICAL PRODUCTS. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GARRIDO, WE FOUND HIM VERY HESITANT TO AGREE THAT THERE SHOULD BE A JOINT US-MEXICAN ANNOUNCE-MENT TO THE GATT OR TO GROUP TROPICAL PRODUCTS. HE RECOGNIZES US HAS AN OBLIGATION PER PARA 7 OF MTN/TP/7 TO NOTIFY DG CONCERNING DETAILS OF CONCESSIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS US INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT AND PROPOSED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION, BUT HE NOTED THAT SUCH NOTIFICATION WAS NOT REQUIRED UNTIL DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION WHICH COULD BE SUBSEQUENT TO JANUARY 15. WE RESPONDED WITH THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED PARA 1.(B)(1)(2) ABOVE.

3. MINIMUM STEP MTN DEL MUST IN ANY EVENT TAKE IS TO CONFIRM AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED AND TO CIRCULATE ESSENTIAL DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT AS THEY PERTAIN TO TROPICAL PRODUCTS AND ASSURANCES THAT ACTION BY BOTH

PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT TAKEN IN MFN BASIS. IN OUR OPINION, ONLY SATISFACTORY WAY TO DO THIS IS TO DETAIL MEXICAN COMMERCIAL POLICY UNDERTAKINGS ON PARTICULAR PRODUCTS, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN DO THIS UNILATERALLY. WE SHOULD OF COURSE ALSO CARRY THE STR PRESS RELEASE IN MISSION DAILY BULLETIN. IN ADDITION, SINCE LOCAL GENEVA AND PERHAPS EUROPEAN PRESS AS WELL MAY NOT COVER STORY AS SPOT NEWS, WE SUGGEST "EUROPEAN REPORT" AND "AGENCE EUROPE" IN BRUSSELS BE SUPPLIED BY USEC WITH STR PRESS RELEASE AS WELL AS THE ESSENTIAL PRODUCT AND COMMERCIAL POLICY ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT.

4. A MORE DESIRABLE COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE TO TRY TO

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USMTN

ACTION STR STR PASS CODEL

PERSUADE MEXICO TO JOIN WITH MTN DEL IN A JOINT REQUEST TO THE DG TO CIRCULATE THE TEXT OF THE JOINT STATEMENT AS WELL AS THE FULL TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT ITSELF FOR THE INFORMATION OF MTN PARTICIPANTS. THIS WOULD MAXIMIZE AWARENESS ON PART OF LDC DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA AND IN CAPITALS ABOUT THE AGREEMENT AND THE FACT THAT THE LOG-JAM ON THE ISSUE OF "CONTRIBUTIONS" HAS BEEN BROKEN. BUT THIS LATTER ELEMENT IS PRECISELY WHY GARRIDO IS HESITANT TO JOIN US IN PUBLICIZING THE EVENT. ACCORDINGLY, WE

RECOMMEND STR TRY AGAIN WITH GARRIDO TO GET HIS AGREEMENT TO THE PREFERRED COURSE OF ACTION. NEEDLESS TO SAY, ORAL AGREEMENT BY GARRIDO WILL NOT BE ENOUGH AND HE WILL HAVE TO INSTRUCT MEXICAN DEL APPROPRIATELY.

5. DRAFTED BY CULBERT AND GRAEF. CULBERT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: AGREEMENTS, TREATY SIGNATURE, FOREIGN TRADE

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 03-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA09729
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770405-0759 Format: TEL

From: GENEVA USMTN Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197711101/aaaadiop.tel

Line Count: 175 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: bdd6270e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION STR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 STATE 258620, 77 MEXICO 18218

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 390961 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US/MEXICAN AGREEMENT SIGNING: GENEVA HANDLING

TAGS: ETRD, MX, US, MTN

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bdd6270e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009